



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

WI ORGANIC ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council is looking for people who care about the future of organic agriculture in Wisconsin and are willing to commit some time and energy to helping it grow. We like people who are willing to share their opinion and perspective and have strong critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Nominations are being accepted for **three (3) seats** open on the 12 member Council, including a certification, at-large, and farmer seat. The Council meets quarterly to guide the development of organic education and marketing opportunities for Wisconsin farms and businesses as well as provide input on state and federal policy that affect organic agriculture.

Each member serves a three-year term. Application materials are available on our website or from Andrew Bernhardt, DATCP Organics & Grazing Specialist, Andrew.Bernhardt@wisconsin.gov. **Applications are due on or before September 17th, 2021 and should be sent to Andrew.**

Advisory Council purpose, structure, and function:

- The purpose of the Council is to provide guidance to the DATCP Secretary, Governor, Legislature, and other state and federal agencies on actions that can be taken to further the Wisconsin organic industry.
- The Council consists of 12 people representing the spectrum of organic production, processing, and marketing in Wisconsin and will include:
 - 3 certified organic farmers, preferably reflecting several types of farms (dairy, vegetable, etc.).
 - 3 organic business sector representatives.
 - 1 representative of organic consumers.
 - 1 representative of a private, non-profit educational organization involved in organic agriculture.
 - 1 representative of the certification industry.
 - 3 at-large members.
- Member terms are on a three-year rotating basis, with four members going off each year. Members may serve more than one term.
- The Council conducts its business primarily via quarterly all-day meetings, email and conference calls.

Nomination process:

- Fill out the nomination form (making sure the person you nominate knows it and is willing to serve), or self-nominate.
- Obtain two letters of recommendation from people who support this person's nomination.
- Send to Andrew Bernhardt WI DATCP, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53718 or Andrew.bernhardt@wisconsin.gov.
- Nominees will be evaluated by a nominating committee and approved by the DATCP Secretary and Agriculture Board.
- Selected nominees will be seated at the October 2021 meeting of the Organic Advisory Council.
- Please contact Andrew Bernhardt for further information or application materials.

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